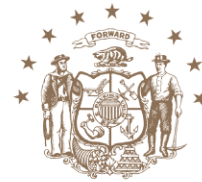




SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
80TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



For Immediate Release
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GOV. WALKER MISGUIDED AS HE TOUTS 'BEST OPTION' AT WAUKESHA SCHOOL

MADISON – This week, Governor Walker publicized his visit to Waukesha charter school La Casa de Esperanza, and touted how the school is a positive reflection of Wisconsin's choice school culture. This visit comes shortly after the school's Principal Carmen Brito resigned under murky circumstances – stating that the school focused too heavily on profits, and failed to put “real educators in charge of education.” Shortly after Brito resigned, La Casa hired a principal without a state administrator's license. Representative Sondy Pope, ranking Democratic member on the Assembly Committee on Education, released the following regarding Walker's support of La Casa:

“Walker's comments on La Casa de Esperanza, despite its questionable history and its administrator breaking state law, further highlights Republicans' pattern to support unaccountable charter schools over public schools for political and ideological reasons.”

La Casa de Esperanza's current principal, Kristy Casey, has failed to obtain or even apply for an administrator's license, which is required by law in Wisconsin schools.

“In his statement, Walker noted that La Casa demonstrated ‘an example of parents choosing the best option for their children.’ We should all be able to agree that the ‘best option,’ for our children is one that follows the most basic state laws and is accountable to the taxpayers of the state.”

“Teachers, administrators and staff should be held to high standards – and especially to state laws – to ensure a safe and quality learning environment for our students. Our public schools hold to these standards, and comply with these laws. If Governor Walker truly cared about providing equal opportunity for all students, he would adequately fund and support public schools the same way he and Republicans support voucher schools.”

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